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STATE OF DELAWARE  
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES  
AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONTROL  
DIVISION OF AIR AND WASTE MANAGEMENT  
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WASTE MANAGEMENT SECTION  
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September 2, 1992

Mr. Mike Giuranna (3HW73)  
U.S. EPA, Region III  
841 Chestnut Building  
Philadelphia, PA 19107

SUBJECT: Amtrak Site in Wilmington, Delaware

Dear Mr. Giuranna:

Based upon the outcome of our meeting on 9/1/92 with Amtrak officials, it is evident that contamination in the form of heavy metals, waste oils, Polycyclic Aromatic Hydrocarbons, creosote products and potentially other contaminants are present in significant amounts both in the ground and in surface water drainage canals located on the eastern portion of the physical plant. This area of the site is quite large, and it appears that quite a lot of vegetation is stressed or non-existent. I estimate the size of the area to be at least seven (7) acres.

The 1988 Preliminary Assessment report prepared by the NUS Corporation for the Amtrak facility primarily focused upon PCB related contamination located in the northern portion of the facility. Since the 1988 report, it is my understanding from discussions with EPA's TSCA program that removal of soil contaminated with PCB's has been completed.

Based upon the aforementioned, the Superfund Branch of DNREC strongly recommends that further action/investigation occur at the Amtrak facility especially on the eastern portion of the facility. We believe two options can be pursued:

1. Divide the Amtrak facility into two sites.

Since the 1988 PA demonstrated that no further action was warranted on the northern portion of the facility, a follow-up SI for this area is not necessary. Rather, a new PA could be conducted during the FY93 term to cover the eastern portion of the site.

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Mr. Mike Giuranna  
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Page 2

2. Consider the Amtrak facility as one site and perform an SI:

According to the NCP if new information is gathered which clearly indicates that an impact to human health and the environment exists, then further investigation can be conducted even after a NFRAP designation.

Enclosed for your review is a site discovery form for the eastern portion of the Amtrak facility (should you want to consider Option 1).

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,



Karl Kalbacher  
Environmental Program Manager I  
Superfund Branch

KFK:dw  
KFK2362.wp

Enclosure

pc: N. V. Raman